



District of Columbia Sentencing Commission

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DRAFT MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETING

November 19, 2019

One Judiciary Square, Suite 430S, Washington, DC 20001

Voting Members in Attendance:

Milton Lee	Molly Gill
Frederick Weisberg	Dave Rosenthal
Katerina Semyonova	Renata K. Cooper
Danya Dyson	Julie Samuels

Non-Voting Members in Attendance:

Diane Strote
Robert Contee
Kevin Whitfield

Staff in Attendance:

Barbara Tombs-Souvey	Kara Dansky	Taylor Tarnalicki
Mia Hebb	Mehmet Ergun	Miatta Sesay-Wood

- I. Judge Lee called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.
- II. The minutes from October 15, 2019 were approved pending any changes submitted to Barbara Tombs-Souvey.
- III. Three -Year Outreach and Education Strategy – Discussion Item, Miatta Sesay-Wood, Outreach Specialist, Barbara Tombs-Souvey, and Judge Lee.

Three-Year Outreach Initiatives: Ms. Sesay-Wood gave an overview of the strategic objectives outlined in the Commission's three-year Comprehensive Outreach and Education Strategy, which aims to inform and educate the public about the factors impacting sentencing under the DC Sentencing Guidelines. Ms. Sesay-Wood presented the following strategic objectives:

- Develop educational outreach curriculum related to the Sentencing Guidelines
- Improve upward and downward communication
- Develop informative outreach related to work of the D.C. Sentencing Commission

Each objective was followed by a discussion of the strategic initiatives that would be under taken to achieve these goals. Ms. Sesay-Wood opened the floor for questions, comments, or edits from the Commission members. Commission members discussed specific audiences to target, as well as the various methods of disseminating the information to increase public awareness of the Sentencing

Commission and its work. Commission members recommended that staff develop a Social Media policy for creating/using any social media platforms.

IV. Continued Discussion of Title 16 Sentences:

a: Presentation of Title 16 Sentencing Data – Taylor Tarnalicki, Research Analyst: Ms. Tarnalicki continued the discussion from October 2019 Commission meeting on Title 16 sentencing trends. Ms. Tarnalicki presented additional information on sentencing trends for juveniles sentenced under Title 16, and compared these trends to that of youthful and adult offenders who were sentenced for the same offenses, and who had similar criminal histories. The data included in the presentation reflected sentences imposed between January 1, 2012 and September 30, 2019.

Ms. Tarnalicki opened the floor for questions and comments from the Commission members. Commission members discussed key findings from the analysis set forth in the memorandum on 1) Juveniles convicted of Title 16 offenses, and 2) a Comparison of Juvenile, Youthful, and Adult Offenders. The Commission members suggested further analysis on sentencing trends related to juvenile offenders.

b: Grid Box Analysis – Mehmet Ergun, Statistician – Will be discussed at the next Commission meeting.

V. The December 17, 2019 Commission Meeting is cancelled due to upcoming holidays.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:25pm.

NEXT MEETING:

January 21, 2020

One Judiciary Square (441 4th Street, NW) Suite 430S.